er is referred to that *Watchtower* for the proof that the "days of Daniel" are literal and are to be calculated as such, and are not symbolic. (*The Watchtower*, 1929, page 372, paragraph 9) The prophecy of Daniel does not say that the cleansing of the sanctuary will be completed twenty-three hundred days after it begins, but that it is to be accomplished twenty-three hundred days after a certain fixed time, which is to be determined, of course, from the prophecy itself. The question propounded by one saint to another was this: "How long shall be the vision concerning the daily [continual] sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?" (Dan. 8:13) The question propounded did not ask, How long until the sanctuary shall be cleansed? There is nothing in the question about the cleansing of the sanctuary, but the question asked is, "How long shall be the vision concerning the [continual] sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation [making desolate, *margin*], to give both the sanctuary and the host to be *trodden under foot?*" Only part of the question is answered in verse fourteen, and that answer relates specifically to the time that must elapse from the existence of two things simultaneously, to wit, the taking away of the continual sacrifice and the transgression of desolation; and the answer in substance is that 'from the taking away of the continual sacrifice and [committing of] the transgression that maketh desolate shall be 2,300 days'. The emphasis here must be on the words "transgression of desolation", because both the act of taking away of the continual sacrifice and the act of transgression must exist at the time of the beginning of the twenty-three-hundred-day period, at the end of which the cleansing is accomplished. The important matter now to do, therefore, is to determine what is meant by the words 'the transgression that maketh desolate', and when did that "transgression" begin or take place; and from *that time* the twenty-three-hundred-day period must begin to count. Otherwise stated, the abomination that maketh desolate *and the transgression* must both exist at the time the twenty-three-hundred-day period begins.

8 "Transgression" means a 'revolt, or rebellion', that is to say, a willful violation of God's law. The willful disobedience of God's law is sin. Paul, a member of the supreme court of Palestine, and a strict Pharisee, wrote under inspiration of God's spirit after he had become a true follower of Christ Jesus these words: "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet." (Rom. 7:7) That means that the responsibility for rebellion or transgression attaches to the wrongdoer completely from the time that the wrong is committed and the wrongdoer receives knowledge that the wrongful act so committed is a violation of God's law. One might do wrong and not know that it was a violation of God's law at the time; but when this knowledge is brought home to him the responsibility particularly attaches from that time forward. The Devil has made the rule that ignorance of the law excuses no man; but God's law is more liberal, and he holds men responsible only after they have received knowledge.

9 The Anglo-American empire system, which is "Christendom", so called, and which had its beginning with the "little horn" in little England, is that power that did set up the League of Nations in the place and stead of God's kingdom under Christ and which is "the abomination" in the sight of Jehovah God. The spiritual advisers of that world-power system, to wit, the clergy, had advised the ruling powers of "Christendom" that the League of Nations is "the political expression of God's kingdom on earth". The commercial and political elements of the world-power organization, without receiving further knowledge, might have raised the point, and earnestly contended for it, that they relied upon the clergymen to advise them; and that since they had been advised that the League of Nations is the political expression of God's kingdom they had every reason to believe that God approved that League, and hence in setting it up there was no willful violation of God's law, or rebellion. Jehovah will not permit these agents of the Devil to make any such argument and be able to rely upon it. Both prophecy and the facts show that Jehovah would afford them no such excuse, but that he would bring knowledge directly home to the ruling factors, that their mouths might be for ever estopped to say that they acted innocently. It was in 1919, the end of January, that the abominable League of Nations was set up by the Anglo-American empire system. It was earlier than that, to wit, 1918, that Jehovah's sanctuary class or devoted people were "cast down" and the "continual sacrifice" of service was taken away. What came to pass after the taking away of the continual sacrifice, and after the setting up of the League of Nations, that brought notice to the seventh world power that the League was and is an abomination in the sight of Jehovah God? Was there any notice given to that world power concerning this abominable thing which had been set up, and that would fix the responsibility completely upon that part of Satan's organization?

10 The answer to that question appears in *The Watchtower*, issue of July 15, 1926, beginning on page 211. Jehovah uses his covenant people, and then lets them know why they were so used. He used his covenant people to serve notice on the seventh world power in fulfilment of this prophecy of Daniel, and none of his anointed people knew at the time that they had anything to do with the fulfilment of the prophecy here considered; nor could they know it until later, because the facts had not entirely come to pass fulfilling the prophecy. At the time above mentioned

there assembled in the city of London, England, a convention of Jehovah's people, at which time a resolution was adopted at the head of which appears this: "A TESTIMONY TO THE RULERS OF THE WORLD"; and which testimony was notice served upon the seventh-world-power rulers and setting forth that the League of Nations is not the expression of God's kingdom on earth, and that therefore the clergy of "Christendom" were liars, had deceived their allies, the rulers of the world, and hence were then and now are the agents of Satan. From that time forward the rulers could have no excuse to say that they had no knowledge that the League of Nations is an abomination in the sight of God. That resolution, together with the address publicly delivered at the earthly headquarters, or "seat", of government of the seventh world power and within the walls of the 'Royal Hall', so named, brought to the attention of the rulers of "Christendom" that Satan is the god of this world, that the world had ended, that the League of Nations is Satan's makeshift and is a fraud, and that it and all "Christendom" would soon fall in the battle of the great day of God Almighty, and that Jehovah's kingdom is the only hope of the world.

[11] Among other things in that notice this appeared: "And contrary to the Word of God the commercial, political and ecclesiastical rulers attempted to stabilize the world and keep the peoples under control by adopting that makeshift which is called the League of Nations and which was wrongfully and blasphemously hailed as the political expression of God's kingdom on earth; that the real author and father of the League of Nations compact is Satan the Devil, the god of this evil world, and it was put forward by him as his last desperate effort to deceive the peoples, turn them away from the true God, and hold them under his own wicked control. . . . (1) The law of Jehovah God has been disregarded and ignored; (2) and that throughout the ages world powers have been organized and succeeded each other, and have now reached a climax in the British Empire; (3) that in all of these world powers fraud has been freely practised in the name of religion and in the name of the Almighty God, and that the clergy have been chiefly used in the practising of such fraud; (4) that the time has come when Almighty God will make himself known to the people and will express his indignation against all hypocrisy; (5) that to this end Jehovah God has set his anointed King upon his throne of authority and judgment; (6) that the kingdom of God is the complete remedy for all human ills and that there is none other; and (7) that the rulers of the earth should now hear and heed these facts."—*The Watchtower*, 1926, pages 212, 213.

[12] The day following the reading of this resolution to the public and the delivery of the supporting address *The Daily News* of London, one of the leading newspapers, carried a full report of both the resolution and the public address; the regular circulation of that paper at that time was 800,000 copies per day, and in addition thereto many extra copies were printed and distributed. That convention therefore was notice to the rulers of "Christendom", and that fixes the time of the beginning of "the transgression" mentioned by the prophet Daniel in 8:13, because from that time the rulers had notice in their own place of operation. Printing the notice in their own press for ever precludes them from denying that they had received service. "Christendom," meaning the Anglo-American empire imperialism, not only failed to give heed to that testimony and notice, but treated the same with contempt and continued to tread down Jehovah's anointed people and to set itself up in opposition to God and to his kingdom. Be it noted that the prophecy does not say that the abomination that maketh desolate and the treading down of the host and the sanctuary will end at the end of the twenty-three hundred days. The only thing it does say is that the sanctuary will be cleansed at that time.

[13] The London convention of Jehovah's witnesses began on the 25th day of May, 1926, at and during which convention the resolution was brought forward and adopted and published. Since the Lord acts by and through his devoted people on earth who serve as his witnesses, the resolution should properly be considered as a notification from the Lord to the rulers of the world. In the absence of specific directions to the contrary the Bible method of calculating the time of the twenty-three hundred days should be followed, which method is by lunar time. Other methods of calculating time are according to the organization of this world, Satan's organization. According to the Bible method of counting the twenty-three hundred days the actual time is six years, four months, and twenty days. Beginning to count from the *transgression* resulting by reason of the League of Nations, and the giving of notice, which must begin May 25, 1926, the twenty-three hundred days, or six years, four months, and twenty days, would end October 15, 1932. Shall we find any evidence showing that the cleansing of the sanctuary took place at that time?

[14] It is certain that the cleansing of the temple, which is the house of God, began when Christ Jesus appeared at the temple and began judgment. (1 Pet. 4:17) Those who at that time and during judgment were found disqualified would then be set aside and cast out. (Matt. 24:48-51) All this cleansing work is done by the Lord, the great Judge, his orders being carried out by his angels who stand guard at the entrance of the temple. Those who by reason of their course of action placed themselves in the "man of sin" class would be separated and turned away from the temple as workers of iniquity and offenders. All the professed followers of Christ Jesus, particularly the clergy of "Christendom" and the principal ones of their flock, by reason of their rebellion following

the service of notice aforegoing would be for ever barred from the sanctuary class. The time must come when all who used the temple or organization of God to accomplish any selfish or personal service for personal gain must be gathered out, for the reason that the sanctuary class must be clean at the end of the fixed time in order that a strenuous, positive righteous offering of sacrifice and praise might be presented before Jehovah God. What, then, took place at the end of the twenty-three-hundred-day period?

[15] *The Watchtower,* issues of August 15 and September 1, 1932, brought before God's people the Scriptural proof that the office of "elective elder", chosen or selected by vote of creatures, does not Scripturally exist, and that therefore the selection of elders by such means should end. As soon as this information got to the companies action was taken to organize their work and exclude all "elective" offices such as elder and deacon. It is well known that during the history of the church almost all the trouble arising amongst God's people has been due to the influence of "heady men" in the church who held the elective position of elder and who insisted on lording it over God's people. It has been this class of men who have hindered the remnant and have opposed their "continual sacrifice", that is to say, the daily service unto Jehovah and his kingdom. (Heb. 13:15) It has been that class who have opposed in the various companies the organization that the Lord is using, and have denounced the Society as a book-selling scheme. Most of these men have insisted that because of their office as elected elder they were entitled to special consideration and to them exclusively belonged the right to direct what should be done in the class or company. They have desired to receive the plaudits of other creatures and thus for selfish gain have insisted on occupying a more honorable position than others. Surely the sanctuary could not be wholly clean until all such are removed and until there is a complete unity amongst all the members of the sanctuary class. The issues of *The Watchtower* in 1932, above mentioned, suggested a method of organization for service. Many of the companies immediately began organization for service according to the manner suggested. In *The Watchtower* of October 15, 1932, there is published a resolution which had been adopted and which is therefore the official announcement of the Lord through his channel of communication of the proper method of organization. Between September and the fifteenth of October practically all the companies of God's people throughout the land had organized along this line. This, then, is the authoritative announcement from the people of the Lord, and therefore from the Lord through his people, that the elective office of elder has ended and that all who are in the temple, and therefore in full unity with the Lord Jesus, and anointed are by virtue of their maturity in Christ elders, within the meaning of the Scriptures. The above resolution appearing in the publication October 15, 1932, marks exactly the end of the twenty-three-hundred-day period. Now let each one of the anointed consider the propheey and the facts and determine for himself whether or not the foregoing is the Scriptural explanation of the twenty-three-hundred-day period. If such is found to be correct, then this is an additional reason why God's people should continue to rejoice and be glad, having this further evidence that the Lord is guiding their every action so long as they are faithful and true to him.

TRODDEN DOWN

[16] The "abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet", still stands in the "holy place", that is to say, still claims to be the Lord's way of ruling the world, and will so stand until destroyed by the power of Jehovah. The question propounded to Daniel, in chapter 8:13, makes mention of the "sanctuary and the host" being trodden under foot. Manifestly the words "sanctuary" and "host" there used are limited to those of the faithful remnant yet on earth and who are continually opposed by Satan and his organization because of their faithfulness in giving the testimony of Jesus Christ. (Rev. 12:17) The Scriptures do not indicate that the class "trodden under foot" will be released and freed at the end of the twenty-three hundred days; and there is no reason to conclude that their freedom from persecution would exist at the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary. The very opposite is to be expected. Jesus explains the reason why the answer, given in Daniel 8:14, to the question propounded is limited to the cleansing of the sanctuary. That part of the sanctuary class on earth is composed of the faithful remnant; and Satan's organization, particularly that part of it known as the Anglo-American empire system, or "Christendom", will continue to oppose these faithful witnesses of Jehovah until the battle of the great day of God Almighty. Then it is that Jehovah, as the Scriptures declare, goes forth and fights against the nations, in which fight Jehovah will be victorious; and at that time the faithful remnant, who previously "shall not be cut off" from his organization, will thereafter be completely freed, and for ever delivered by the hand of God's great executive officer, Christ Jesus, who leads in that fight.—Zech. 14:2, 3.

[17] The Hebrew word translated "cleanse" in Daniel 8:14 is *tsadaq,* and this text is the only place where the word is so translated. Other places the same word is rendered "be just", "be justified," "be righteous," "justify," "do justice," "turn to righteousness," "clear selves." Thus the word means vindication and victory for the right. That proves that the remnant takes a positive and unequivocal position on the side of Jehovah and is wholly devoted to him and his kingdom and is thus proved right. It follows

that Jehovah would permit no one to be of that class who is in any wise out of harmony with the kingdom and its work.

[18] The cleansing takes place at the time the temple class is brought into the temple and into full unity with Christ Jesus. It is this faithful remnant class that Jehovah makes his witnesses and that must thereafter give a clear and unequivocal testimony to the name and honor of Jehovah God. It is this class that he uses to serve notice upon Satan's organization before he destroys it. The time must come to finally and for ever settle the great issue, and Jehovah God will have notice plainly served upon all who make any claim to or pretend to have any scheme for the welfare of man, or who hold to any god besides Jehovah, that he is God. He uses his witnesses to serve such notice, and therefore says to them: "Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things [things yet before us]? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified [*tsadaq*, Hebrew]: or let them hear, and say, It is truth. Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me." (Isa. 43:9, 10) "Surely, shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come: and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. In the Lord shall all the seed of Israel [God's chosen people] be justified, and shall glory."—Isa. 45:24, 25.

[19] Daniel the prophet did not understand the full meaning of the vision and he bemoaned the fact that 'the sanctuary is desolate'. "Now, therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake." (Dan. 9:17) God told Daniel that the word of the prophecy could not be understood "till the time of the end", at which time there shall stand up the "great Prince", which is Christ Jesus the King. (Dan. 12:1, 9) The date of the "time of the end" begins with October, 1914, when Christ Jesus was installed as King on Mount Zion, or God's organization. Then the Lord told Daniel that at the time of the end "many shall be purified, and made white, and tried". (Dan. 12:10) This corresponds exactly with the coming of Christ Jesus to the temple for judgment in 1918. (Mal. 3:1-3) That marks the beginning of the separating work, or the beginning of the cleansing of the temple, and the promise is that "none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand" the prophecy. The cleansing of the sanctuary class shall be completed twenty-three hundred days after "the transgression", and not twenty-three hundred days after the beginning of judgment. The reason given by Jesus for a certain class' not understanding is that they are workers of iniquity, that is to say, lawless, and hence they would be gathered out and cast into outer darkness and have their portion with the hypocrites.—Matt. 13:41; 24:51; 25:30.

[20] The wise are those who hear and obey the Lord and receive his approval. The prophet of God inquired: "How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?" (Dan. 12:6) Daniel was then told that it would be "for a time, times, and an half", which is equivalent to three and one-half years, or 1,260 days, according to the Biblical method of counting time; and that the end of that period of time or "the end of these wonders" would be marked by 'scattering of the holy people of God'. (Dan. 12:7) The end of Satan's rule without interruption and the beginning of the rule of Christ Jesus mark definitely the time of the end, which time was October 1, 1914. Just three and one-half years, or 1,260 days, thereafter Jehovah's holy people were scattered, to wit, in the beginning of April, 1918. That marks the time of the end of strange things, or "wonders", and the time for the beginning of the understanding, because the Lord Jesus had now come to the temple. Clearly this means that an understanding of the prophecy of Daniel could not be had before 1918, and the facts show that no man on earth did understand it until after that time. (See *The Watchtower*, 1929, pages 371-373.) Since that date only "the wise" have understood the beginning of the kingdom and other like great truths, which Jehovah has taught his people. It was these who did understand that were first tried, purified and made white, and thus proved; and this must be done before they could understand and before they could offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

[21] Further showing the time for the fulfilment of this prophecy Jehovah's messenger informed Daniel: "And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days." (Dan. 12:11) The 1,290-day period is equal to three years and seven months and the beginning is marked by two things' existing at the same time, to wit, 'The taking away of the continual sacrifice, and the setting up of the abomination that maketh desolate.' As herein shown the taking away of the continual offering or sacrifice was accomplished by the seventh world power, or "Christendom", in the spring of 1918; and the setting up of the League of Nations, "the abomination that maketh desolate" because it stands in the place or stead of God's kingdom, occurred at the end of January, 1919; therefore the latter date marks the beginning of the 1,290-day period; and counting three years and seven months from that time would necessarily bring the end thereof to the beginning of September, 1922. At this latter date the angel of the Lord sounded the first "trumpet" and poured out the first "vial" upon the earth, and in which "the holy people" of God on earth had

a part. It was at that time that God's faithful people announced the King at the temple, and this was done by a resolution declaring that Jehovah is the only true God, that Christ Jesus is the King, and the kingdom has begun, and that the League of Nations is the product of the Devil. That resolution and the accompanying argument adopted at the Cedar Point convention in 1922 was published and sent forth by millions to the people all over "Christendom". (See *The Watchtower*, 1922, pages 324, 331; 1929, page 374; *Light*, Book One, page 106.) These facts appear clearly to be in fulfilment of the prophecy of Daniel 12:11 with relation to the 1,290 days.

[22] Then Jehovah's Messenger said to Daniel: "Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days." (Dan. 12:12) The end of the 1,290-day period marks the time of great encouragement to the people of God, and with new energy they move forward in the service of Jehovah. The words of the above prophecy show that the end of the 1,335-day period must mark the beginning of a time of special blessings to the anointed people of God on earth. From September, 1922, onward there were many truths revealed to God's people, which truths revealed give great encouragement to the faithful to push forward with the work; and exactly 1,335 days thereafter, to wit, in the latter part of May, 1926, and to be exact, the 25th day of May that year, Jehovah poured out his blessings upon his people at the London convention, and also at the same time the angel of the Lord poured out the fifth "vial". (Rev. 16:10; *Light*, Book One, page 137; *Light*, Book Two, page 31) That marked the beginning of the time of blessedness to the people of God, and which time shall never end. It also marked the beginning of the time of the counting of the 2,300 days. It was at that time that God's people saw as never before the fallacy of the doctrine that men, by character development and appearing to be sanctimonious, could thus fit themselves for the kingdom; and they began to put aside all such things and to appear before the Lord honestly and frankly and to depend upon the Lord to make them fit for his kingdom, their part being to faithfully perform their covenant.

[23] The pouring out of the fifth "vial", and which was the Testimony to the nations of the world, marked the beginning of the "transgression of desolation" (Dan. 8:13); therefore such was the beginning of the 2,300-day period at the end of which the sanctuary must be cleansed, which fact has been accomplished, as above set forth. The Scriptures and the facts prove that the four periods of time named by Daniel's prophecy, as above mentioned herein, are literal periods of time, and not symbolic. Furthermore, it is shown that these prophecies could not be understood until after the appearing of the Lord Jesus at the temple in 1918 and that then they would be understood only by those completely devoted to and approved by Jehovah and his great Judge, Christ Jesus.

OPPOSITION

[24] It is to be expected that when the sanctuary is entirely cleansed there would be some claiming to be of God's organization and yet who oppose the sanctuary class. Since the October 15 (1932) issue of *The Watchtower* some who were prior to that time associated with God's anointed people have come out openly in opposition to the Society and its work that is being carried on at the command of the Lord. The leaders in such opposition are those who until recently were holding the position of "elective elder" in companies of God's people. Only a few, however, have thus manifested themselves. These opposers at no time have shown any real zeal for the Lord and his kingdom. They have preferred to make speeches and appear wise and let others carry the message of the kingdom to the people. Now they murmur and complain against the Society and the work it carries on in the name of the Lord. This was foretold in God's Word at Jude 16. This is evidence that such murmurers and complainers were not approved and taken into the temple and therefore not born of God's organization, and hence are not taught of God and are not at peace. The leaders in such opposition may influence the weaker ones to follow them; hence mention is made here of such opposition and what should be the attitude of God's people toward them. (Jude 20-22) The cleansing of the temple necessarily means the setting of the disapproved ones on the side; and there of necessity must be some who are not approved, otherwise there would have been no cleansing work to do. The fact that the church is now at unity means that all must, of course, work together and that those who oppose are out of harmony with Christ and the work of giving testimony concerning God and his kingdom.—*The Watchtower*, 1932, pages 259-261.

[25] To oppose the united action of the remnant in giving testimony of Jehovah and thereby declaring the vengeance of God against the enemy means that such opposers are not in the sanctuary. The very purpose of bringing the church to unity the Scriptures declare to be for the perfection of the saints for the work of the ministry. (Eph. 4:12, *R.V.*) Another rendering of this same text is: "In order fully to equip his people for the work of serving." (*Weymouth*) The cleansing of the temple or sanctuary class prepares a people for this very work. The time rapidly approaches when God will vindicate his name. Before that is done at the battle of the great day of God Almighty he will have a company of true and faithful witnesses to work in full unity and in harmony in giving his testimony. The facts show that there is now just such a company of faithful ones continuing to do such work, and this should greatly encourage them.